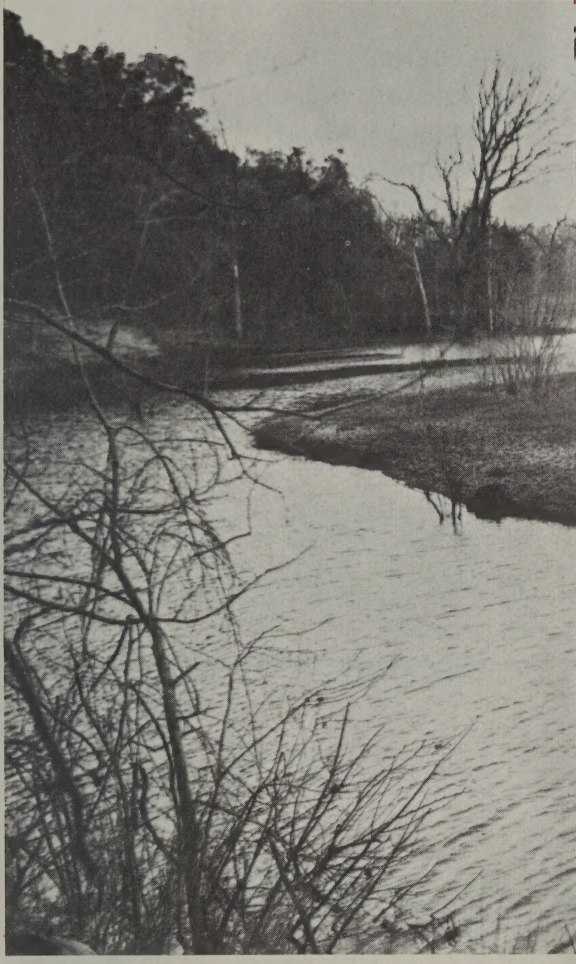
shelbyville wildlife management area

THE AREA

Lake Shelbyville is an impoundment of the Kaskaskia River between Shelbyville and Sullivan, Illinois. Over 34,000 acres were purchased for this project by the Corps of Engineers as part of the general comprehensive plan for the development of the Kaskaskia River Basin for recreation, water supply, flood control and fish and wildlife conservation. Lands above the conservation pool are managed by either the Corps of Engineers or Department of Conservation for recreational purposes. Situated along the Kaskaskia and West Okaw Rivers, the lake and its surrounding uplands form a scenic background for outdoor recreation.

THE LAKE

The 11,000 acre lake (at normal pool) averages about 16 feet in depth, with maximums of approximately 67 feet. Several islands and many inlets and coves provide over 250 miles of shoreline. The impoundment originates from an earthern fill dam near Shelbyville, Illinois and extends for 17 miles to its extremities near Bethany (West Okaw arm) and Sullivan (Kaskaskia arm).



NATURAL FEATURES

Tree species along the lake are commonly oak, hickory and hard maple on the uplands and cottonwood, soft maple, sycamore and willow in the lowlands. Wildflowers can be found in abundance in the understory and in old field settings. Isolated prairie conditions exist along railroads, roads and in some abandoned fields. An abundance of songbirds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and game species inhabit the diverse vegetation on the area.

FACILITIES

Facilities for camping, picnicing, hiking, boating, fishing, swimming, sightseeing and horseback riding are available along the lake. However, camping, swimming and horseback riding are permitted only in areas specifically designated for these activities.

The Department of Conservation manages two areas, Eagle Creek State Park and Wolf Creek State Park. A variety of facilities are offered at each site.

HUNTING

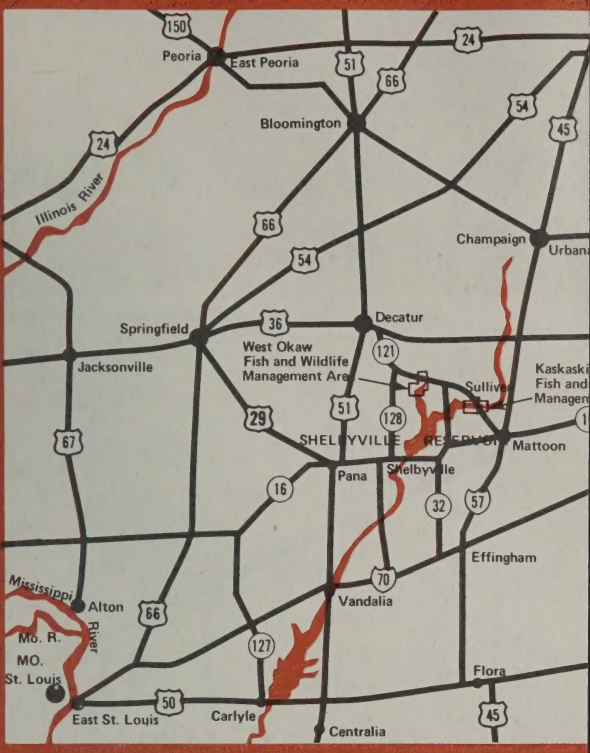
Hunting is generally allowed throughout the area. However, none is permitted where posted or within 500 feet of a public use area (campground, picnic area, boat ramp, etc.). Federal and State of Illinois game regulations regarding season length, bag limits and huntable species apply in all areas, with the exception that all waterfowl hunting closes at 1 p.m.

Rabbit, quail and pheasant provide most of the hunting action on the area. Squirrel (fox and gray) and deer can be taken with fair regularity in or along the excellent timber stands. Lesser opportunities for dove, woodcock and snipe are available during peak migrations. Some waterfowl opportunities exist, particularly in the waterfowl management areas. The regulations on these areas are subject to change each year. Obtaining a copy of Department of Conservation Administration Orders governing use of this state property is recommended before hunting on this area.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION . . .

The area is governed by Federal regulations (Title 36 – Parks, Forests and Memorials) and Department of Conservation Administrative Orders. Copies of these are available through the managing agency. All persons who hunt must have a valid license in possession. All vehicles must remain on existing roads. Park and Corps rangers and Wildlife Resources personnel are present to answer questions and provide assistance. If in doubt, ask these people—they are there to serve you.

For additional information, write the Illinois Department of Conservation, Division of Wildlife Resources, State Office Building, Springfield, 62706. For information on other Illinois recreational areas, write the Department of Conservation, Information/Education Division, State Office Building, Springfield, 62706.


150
Peoria
East Peoria
51
66
24
Bloomington
54
45
24
Illinois River
66
Champaign
Urbana
54
Springfield
36
Decatur
West Okaw
Fish and Wildlife
Management Area
121
Jacksonville
Kaskaski
Fish and
Managem
Sullivan
29
51
128
67
SHELBYVILLE RESERVOIR
Mattoon
Pana
Shelbyville
16
32
57
Effingham
70
Vandalia
Mississippi
Alton
River
66
Mo. R.
MO.
St. Louis
127
Flora
East St. Louis
50
Carlyle
Centralia
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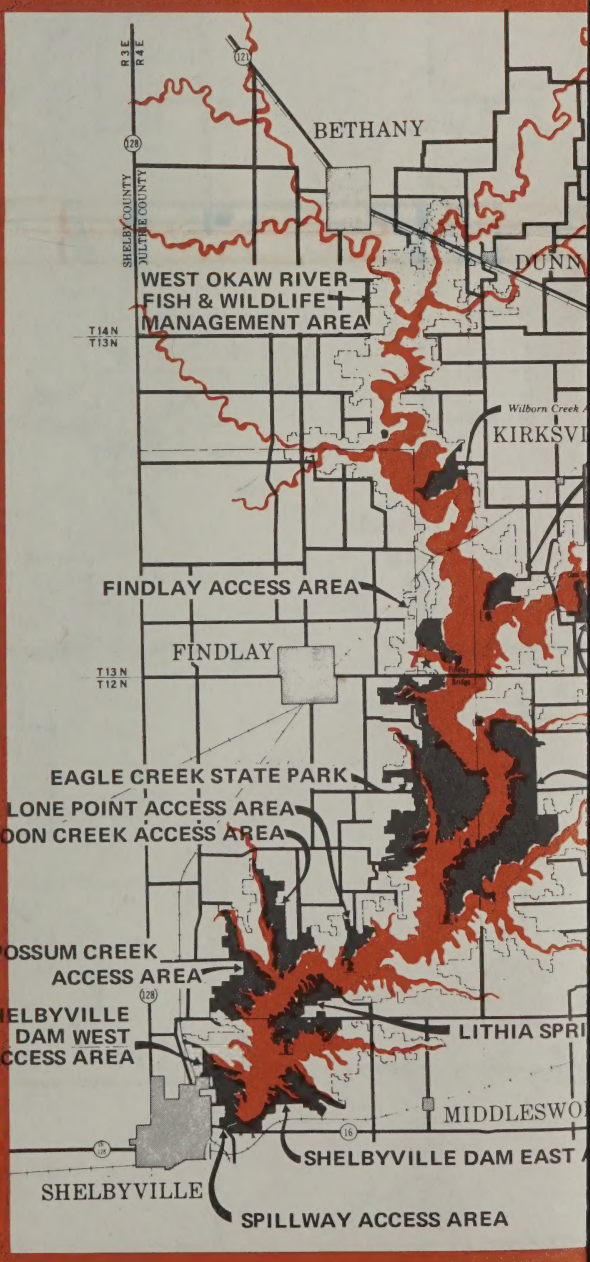
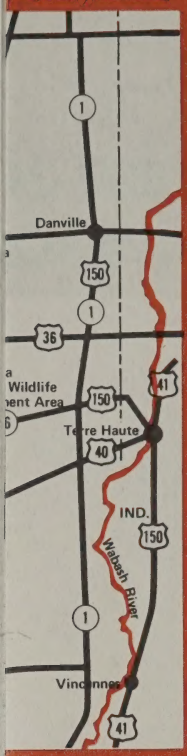
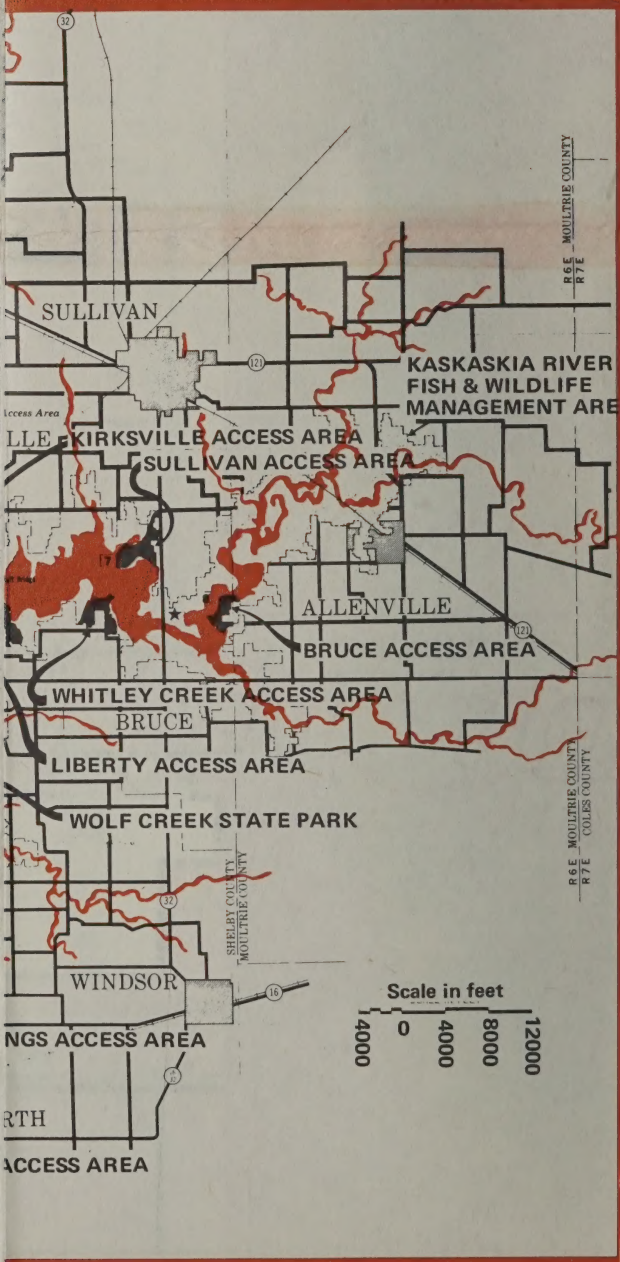

R3E
R4E
121
BETHANY
128
SHELBY COUNTY
JULTIB COUNTY
DUNN
WEST OKAW RIVER
FISH & WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT AREA
T14N
T13N
Wilborn Creek A
KIRKSVI
FINDLAY ACCESS AREA
FINDLAY
T13N
T12N
EAGLE CREEK STATE PARK
LONE POINT ACCESS AREA
COON CREEK ACCESS AREA
POSSUM CREEK
ACCESS AREA
128
SHELBYVILLE
DAM WEST
ACCESS AREA
LITHIA SPRI
MIDDLESWO
16
SHELBYVILLE DAM EAST
SHELBYVILLE
SPILLWAY ACCESS AREA

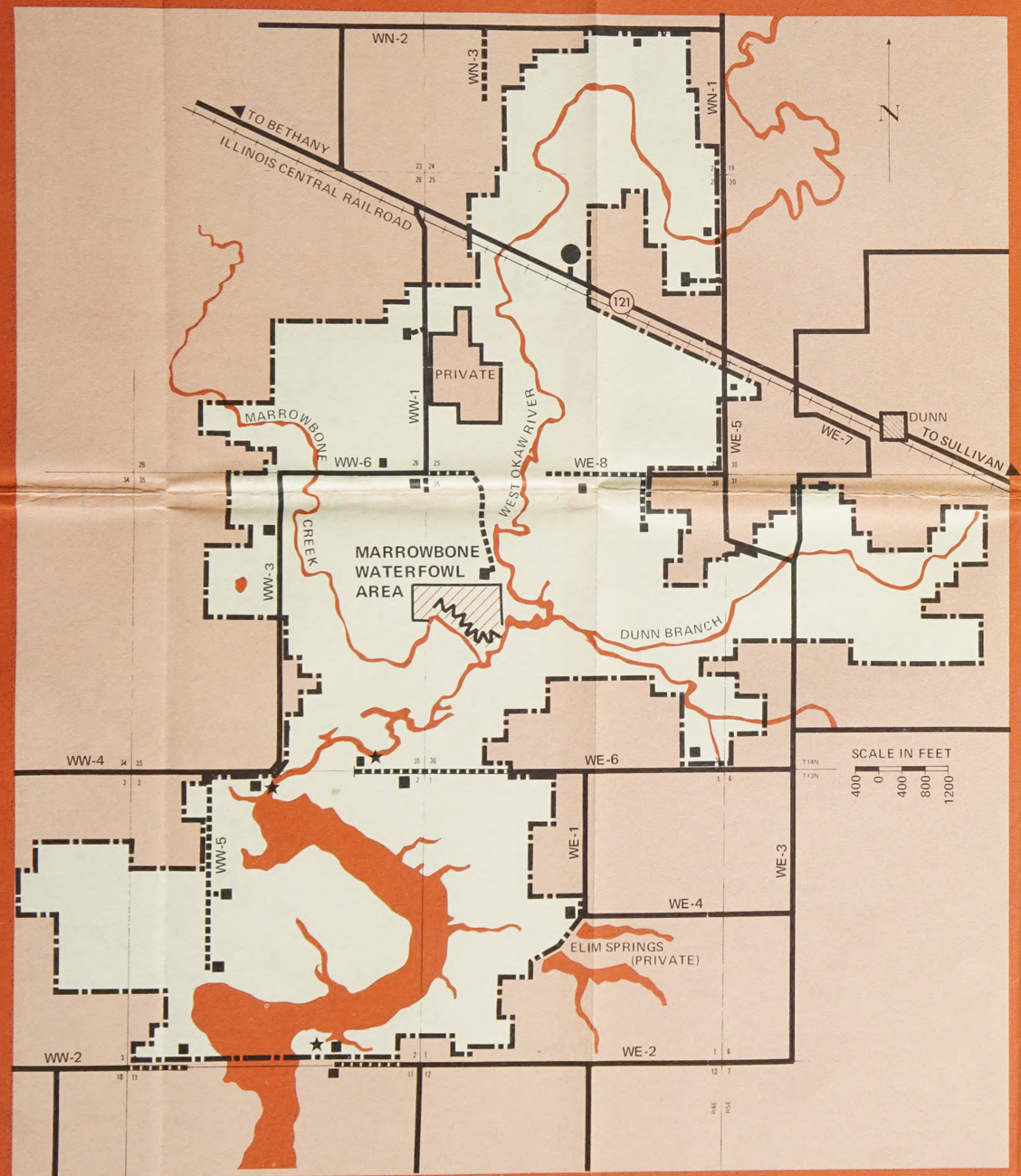


VICINITY MAP
LAKE SHELBYVILLE



WEST OKAW FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

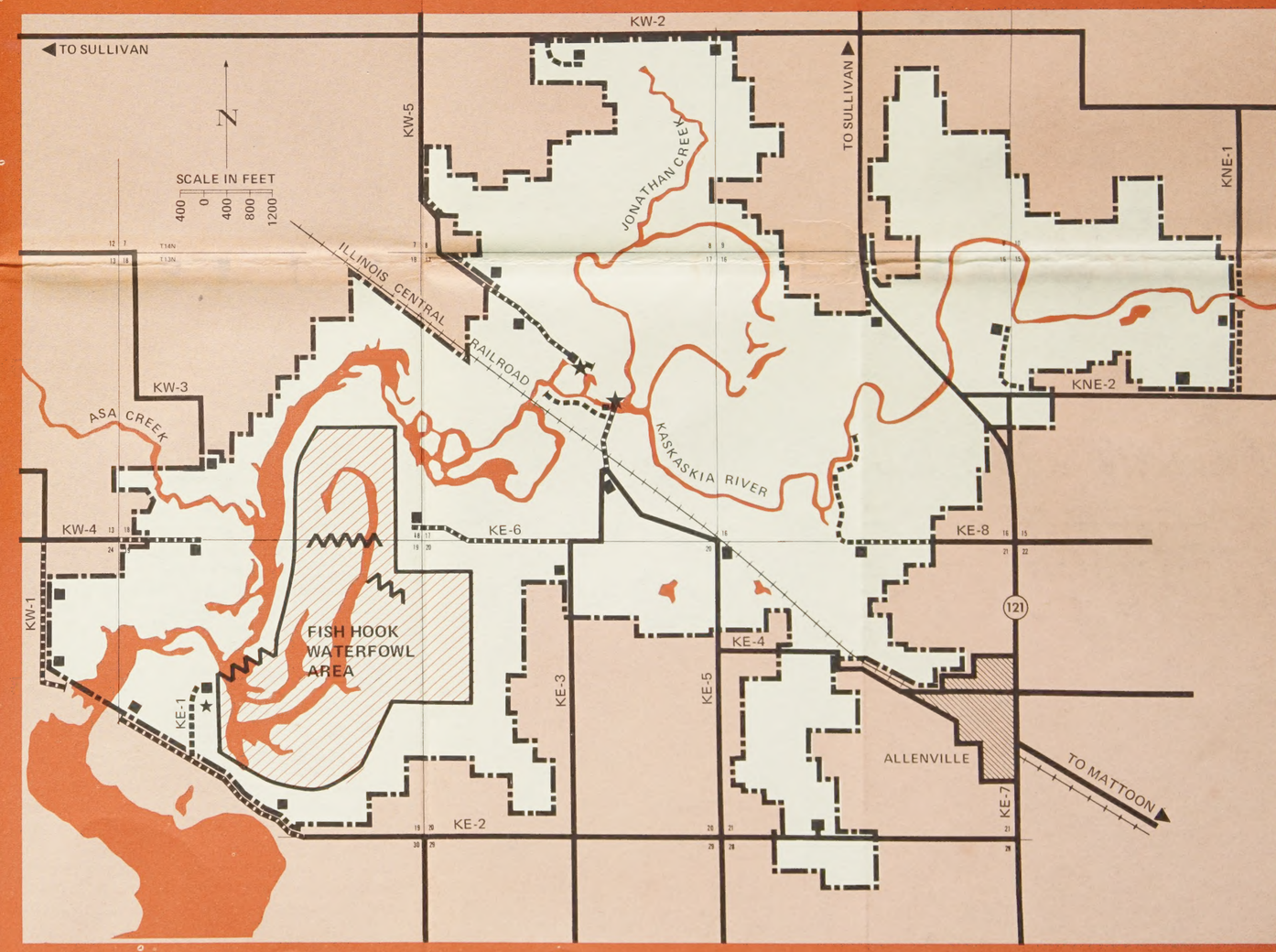
(Many access roads are impassable during periods of rainy weather and high water.)



LEGEND

NORMAL POOL	EL .600
AREA BOUNDARY	
ROADS	KW-2, KNE-1, etc.
COUNTY ROADS	
IMPROVED ACCESS ROADS	
UNIMPROVED ACCESS ROADS	
PARKING AREAS	■
BOAT RAMP	★
LEVEE	
PLANNED HQ	●

KASKASKIA FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



Illinois Department of Conservation

life and land together

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